



Staff Gather to Reflect on Tragedy



At the request of Governor Frank O'Bannon, on the morning of September 14 state employees were asked to pause for a minute of silence, at 11:00 a.m., for common thought, prayer, or meditation about the tragic events that unfolded on September 11.

At the Indiana State Department of Health, after the minute of silence, employees joined in the singing of "God Bless America." The words to this song, which has been called "America's unofficial national anthem," follow:

***God Bless America,
Land that I love.***

***Stand beside her, and guide her
Thru the night with a light from above.
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam
God bless America,
My home sweet home.***

ISDH STAFF observe a moment of silence. Employees on all eight floors at the Indiana State Department of Health gather around the atrium at 2 N. Meridian Street September 14 to share remembrance of the estimated 7,000 victims of terror whose lives were lost on September 11 in New York, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania. The second floor atrium is decorated with bunting. A historic 48-star American flag is displayed in the lobby. Second floor employees are shown below.

Still video images shown on this page by Dennis Rediker



CHILD HEALTH DAY to Be Observed October 1

The Indiana State Department of Health is joining with other organizations throughout the nation on October 1 to observe National Child Health Day.

"All Aboard the 2010 Express for Children with Special Health Care Needs and Their Families" is this year's campaign theme. State officials will use that theme to raise awareness of the importance of providing children with special health care needs and their families with easy access to a health care provider in their local communities.

"The health of our children is the health of our future," said State Health Commissioner Greg Wilson, M.D. "The State Department of Health is dedicated to more effectively coordinating our services for children with special health care needs and their families."

Healthy People 2010, which was unveiled last year, called for all states to develop community-based health care service systems for children with special health care needs and their families. To that end, the Children's Special Health Care Services program at the State Department of Health encourages these children and their families to seek health care providers within their local communities.

"Children and youth with special health care needs and their families typically require more medical and non-medical services than other children and must interact frequently with multiple aspects of the community service system," said Wendy Gettelfinger, assistant commissioner for Children and Family Health Services.

"We would like for these families to have a primary medical home and a specialty provider, if possible, within their local communities," said Gettelfinger.

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services defines children with special health care needs as those who have or are at increased risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally. It is estimated that 18 percent of children in the United States have these special health needs.

The Indiana First Steps program serves more than 12,000 children with developmental delays each year. The Children's Special Health Care Services program at the State Department of Health, which serves a subset of chronically medically ill children, assists more than 10,000 children annually.

One of the Maternal and Child Health Bureau's core goals in developing community-based health service systems is to ensure all children are screened early and continuously for special health care needs.

"It is critical to identify children in the general population who have special health care needs as early as possible so that they and their families can be given appropriate services to address those needs," said Judith Ganser, M.D., state medical director for Maternal and Child Health.

This year Indiana's newborn hearing screening received an "excellent" rating in a recent state-by-state report card issued by the National Campaign for Hearing Health. Between July 1 and December 31 of last year, 97 percent of infants born in Indiana were screened, and 98 percent of newborns who did not pass initial screenings received a repeat screening.

National Child Health Day is an annual observance that dates back to 1928. Celebrated on the first Monday in October, it is intended to focus the attention of the nation on issues related to children's development and well-being.

— Jennifer Dunlap

Proclamation

WHEREAS, according to the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, children with special health care needs are those who have or are at increased risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 18 percent of children in the United States have these special health needs; and

WHEREAS, Healthy People 2010 calls for all states to develop community-based health service systems for children with special health care needs and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Children and Family Health Services Commission of the Indiana State Department of Health is committed to addressing the needs of these children and their families; and

WHEREAS, National Child Health Day, on October 1, 2001, will focus the attention of the nation on issues related to children's development and well being; and

WHEREAS, this year's National Child Health Day campaign theme is "All Aboard the 2010 Express for Children with Special Health Care Needs and Their Families;" and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to set aside time to raise awareness in Indiana of the importance of providing appropriate health services for children with special health care needs and their families; and

NOW, THEREFORE,
I, FRANK O'BANNON, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby proclaim October 1, 2001, as

CHILD HEALTH DAY

in the State of Indiana, and invite all citizens to take due note of the observance.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Indiana at the Capitol in Indianapolis on this 20th day of September, 2001.

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Frank O'Bannon
Governor of Indiana

Women's Health Month Celebration Highlights Variety of Health Issues

September is Women's Health Month, and this year Indianapolis played host to a variety of women's health groups at a reception; a speech by Miss U.S.A., Kandace Krueger; conferences; a candlelight vigil at Monument Circle; and a 5K run/walk downtown.

At a reception in the Artsgarden on Thursday, September 20, the Office of Women's Health (OWH) at the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) and the Indiana Commission for Women announced the recipients of the 2001-2002 Women's Health Mini-Grants. Eight mini-grants were awarded, totaling \$79,550. The grant program, established in 1999, awards monies to Indiana communities to provide support, education, and other tools needed to modify or encourage healthy behaviors in women and girls.

At the Artsgarden reception, speakers included State Representatives Vaneta Becker and Vanessa Summers; Dr. Rose Fife of the National Center of Excellence in Women's Health at the Indiana University School of Medicine; Pat Goldman, president of the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance; Mike Hanson and Linda Conti, both of Ovar'coming Together; and Miss U.S.A. Kandace Krueger, who spoke about her association with breast and ovarian cancers. Award recipients were applauded as Rep. Summers announced the winners of the 2001-2002 mini-grants.

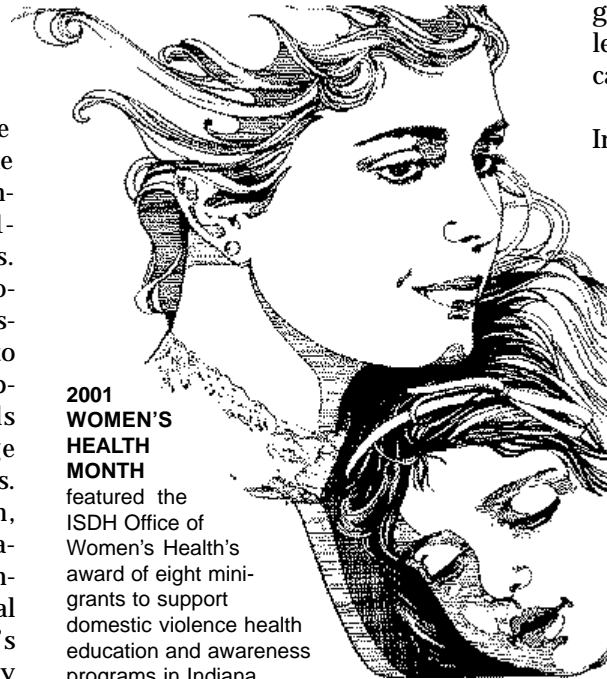
This year's grants support domestic violence health education and awareness programs. The eight funded programs cover education and awareness efforts in 23 Indiana counties, of which 14 are considered rural. Grants in prior years funded programs in cardiovascular disease, substance abuse, eating disorders, osteoporosis, sexual violence, domestic violence, heart disease, breast cancer, cervical cancer, mental health, smoking prevention, weight management, and prenatal care programs.

Grant recipients for 2001-2002 are:

Community Alliance of the Far Eastside, Inc. (CAFÉ), Marion County-Indianapolis, for "Women's Homeless Prevention Program," a program to help

far eastside Indianapolis women facing domestic violence move from the threat of homelessness to self-sufficiency;

Quasi, Inc., Allen and surrounding counties, for "Battered Women, Silent Tears: An Investigation into Domestic



2001 WOMEN'S HEALTH MONTH featured the ISDH Office of Women's Health's award of eight mini-grants to support domestic violence health education and awareness programs in Indiana.

Violence in America," a 10-part public radio series addressing domestic violence, women at risk, barriers to leaving abusive relationships, predators, and future implications;

Alternatives Incorporated of Madison County, Henry County, for "Henry County Domestic Violence Project," which will improve services for women who are victims/survivors of domestic abuse;

Crisis Connection, Inc., Dubois, Crawford, Orange, Perry, and Spencer counties, for "Project SANE/SART," a coordinated community domestic and sexual violence response;

The Caring Place, Porter, Lake, and Starke counties, for "Recognizing Family Violence," a program for fourth, fifth, and sixth graders teaching how to understand and recognize family violence, how to stay safe during an incident, and where to go for help;

La Casa de Amidad, Inc., St. Joseph County, for "Proyecto Esperanza" (Project Hope), a program for Latino victims of domestic violence, including

therapeutic sessions and group counseling, community education, and cultural sensitivity training;

YWCA of Greater Lafayette, Benton, Carroll, Clinton, Tippecanoe, Warren, and White counties, for "Reflections Self-Esteem/Support Group," a program to help victims of domestic violence overcome the results of physical, verbal, and emotional abuse; and Community Mental Health Center, Inc., Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley, and Switzerland counties, for "Directions! Domestic Violence Programming," a program to provide a regional, collaborative effort to reduce the incidence of domestic violence and sexual assault by raising community awareness.

The Ovarian Cancer National Alliance (OCNA) held its 2001 annual meeting "Ovarian Cancer: Silent No More" in Indianapolis this year on September 19-22, which marked a return to this city for the conference. Although the tragic events of September 11 brought a slight reduction in the number of attendees, sponsors were pleased with what

they consider a good turnout for the conference. The conference was co-sponsored by Indiana's Ovar'coming Together, an ovarian cancer education and support group for survivors.

Other activities of the OCNA conference included a Continuing Medical Education (CME) seminar on ovarian cancer in Carmel on Wednesday, September 19; a candlelight vigil for ovarian cancer victims and survivors on Friday, September 21, at Monument Circle; and the StarStrides Run/Walk to Fight Ovarian Cancer in conjunction with Ovar'coming Together and the *Indianapolis Star's* Women's Expo at the Indianapolis Convention Center on Saturday, September 22. Staff members of the Office of Women's Health performed 73 osteoporosis bone density heel screenings at the Women's Expo.

To cap Women's Health Month, "Speaking of Women's Health," a women's health conference in its third year, is being held today, Friday, September 28 at the Convention Center.

— Barbara E. Cohen

Cheryl Moles Is New State WIC Director

Cheryl Moles, Children and Family Health Services Commission, has recently been promoted to State Director of the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program.

The Farmers Market Program, which provides fresh produce for WIC clients, also falls under her direction.

Speaking about the technical work of the WIC program, Moles said, "WIC is a short-term intervention program designed to influence lifetime nutrition and health behaviors in a targeted, high risk population. WIC provides quality nutrition education, breastfeeding education and support, monthly supplemental nutritious foods, and health care and other social services referrals.

"Based on a nutritional assessment,



CHERYL MOLES' phone work involves contacts throughout Indiana in support of Women, Infants, and Children offices.

Photo by Daniel Axler

supplemental food allotments are custom tailored for each client by either a registered dietician or registered nurse," Moles said.

Vouchers for milk, cereal, juice,

eggs, formula, and peanut butter are provided to clients. The vouchers are redeemed at WIC program participating merchants.

WIC staff discuss the client's individual nutritional and medical risk factors. Moles says that WIC staff network with many ISDH programs and many programs external to ISDH to meet other needs of pregnant women.

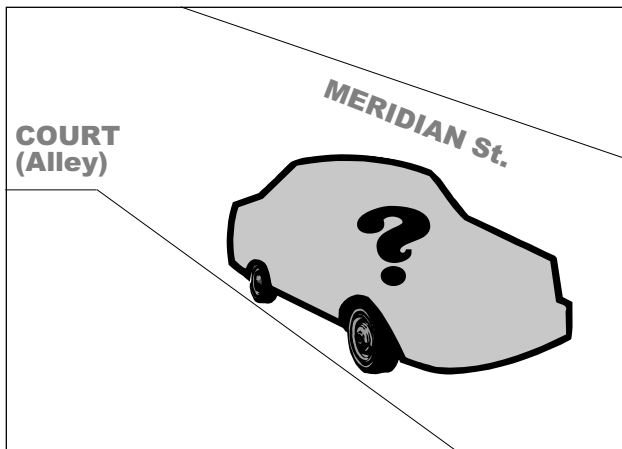
Wendy Gettelfinger, recently appointed as assistant commissioner of the new Children and Family Health Services Commission, said, "It has been my

pleasure to work with Cheryl Moles for the past five years in WIC. Cheryl is one of the hardest working, conscientious people that I know, and I leave the position (as WIC State Director) knowing that the women, infants, and children in Indiana are in excellent hands."

Moles has been working in various capacities of the WIC program since 1987, and as program manager for almost five years. She previously worked for two other state agencies.

At the Indiana Department of Transportation, she was previously director of property management within the Land Acquisition Division. Following that, she served as business manager for the Indiana Department of Correction at the Indiana Boys' School.

Car Wash to be Prize of SECC Campaign Competition



THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S CAR from the winning ISDH commission will get a wash on Meridian Street at Court (alley on north side of 2 N. Meridian, illustrated above) by other assistant commissioners at 3:00 p.m., October 12.

"How about a little friendly competition among commissions at ISDH?" That was State Health Commissioner Greg Wilson, M.D.'s challenge posed by Jeanne Hogan, Operational Services Commission, in her recent GroupWise e-mail.

Hogan is helping to mobilize support for the State Employees' Community Campaign (SECC). According to her, a free car wash is what the assistant commissioner will get when his/her staff has contributed

the most monies (per capita) to the 2001/2002 SECC by the SECC deadline. The four other assistant commissioners will perform the washing honors. Hogan said, "I believe Commissioner Wilson will be bringing his chamois, too."

The SECC campaign started September 6 and ends October 8, 2001. All monies contributed to the SECC will be counted toward the friendly competition.

Flying suds, together with the winner of the competition, may be seen at the SECC ISDH winning car wash at the corner of Court (alley) and Meridian Street on Meridian Street at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, October 12.

This friendly competition is in addition to Dr. Wilson's challenge of a one-time cash contribution of \$5 (up to \$300) for each new or increased biweekly pledge.

Hogan said, "Let the competition begin. May the best dirty car win!"

Indiana State Department of Health *Express*

The *Indiana State Department of Health Express* is a bi-weekly publication for ISDH employees and stakeholders. To submit news items, call (317) 233-7336 or send information to: ISDH Express, Office of Public Affairs, 2 N. Meridian St., Section 2E, Indianapolis, IN 46204-3003. Inquiries should be directed to:

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AHEC Grant Awarded to I.U. School of Medicine

On September 1, the I.U. School of Medicine received notification that its Area Health Education Center (AHEC) federal grant application had been approved.

Stephen Jay, M.D., associate dean and chair, Department of Public Health at the I.U. School of Medicine (I.U.S.O.M.) asserted, "Our vision (for AHEC) is a collaborative statewide system for community-based primary health care professions education that fosters the continuing improvement of health care services for all citizens in Indiana."

Preparation for Indiana's first AHEC in west central Indiana had been underway for several years. Two more AHECs are planned, to be based in northwest and south central Indiana.

Dr. Jay says an AHEC's mission is to educate, recruit, distribute, and retain health care professionals in areas where they are needed, and specifically in health profession shortage and medically underserved areas.

The AHEC with executive offices in Terre Haute will provide educational outreach and support in approximately 16 western Indiana counties.

According to Dr. Jay, each AHEC is community based and possesses the flexibility to meet specific and changing community health care needs. To assure these goals are realized, a community-based advisory board is integral to each AHEC to help focus and guide the AHEC's activities. One of the west central AHEC board's first tasks will be selection of an executive director.

Roy W. Geib, Ph.D., director of the I.U.S.O.M. Education Center in Terre Haute, says that clinical education will be provided to health profession students in rural settings and will also involve recruitment of future health care professionals by communicating with high school students in the west-central region—to the point of inviting the high schoolers to shadow the health care students while working.

Dr. Jay, project principal investigator, maintains that an AHEC can also help obtain collaborative grants, "where a local health department will team up with the Indiana State Department of Health and Indiana University to generate funding opportunities for scholarship and research, . . . like determining optimum strategies for training health care professionals."

ISDH Exhibits at Farm Progress Show 2001, September 25-27

This was Indiana's year to host the Farm Progress Show, and ISDH was ready with exhibits in the Show's Health Tent, according to Bob Sunman, ISDH Office of Rural Health.

Three or four staff members of the Local Liaison Office represented the State Department of Health every day with exhibits focused on prevention and rural safety. Among the topics presented were diabetes management, heart health, cholesterol, diet, and food safety.

The show draws farm families from the Illinois, Iowa, and Indiana region. These states rotate the show on a three-year cycle. This year's show was held on a farm near Lafayette.

Featured on 3,000 acres were nearly 400 exhibits in "tent city," on just about every conceivable aspect related to farm work and farm living, with a preponderance of new offerings by farm machinery, equipment, and hardware manufacturers. The manufacturers demonstrated field-crop equipment operating comparisons and livestock-handling equipment with calves actually moving through shoots and loading equipment.

In addition, comparison field seed crop exhibits featured growing varieties of corn, soybeans, and a number of other crops.

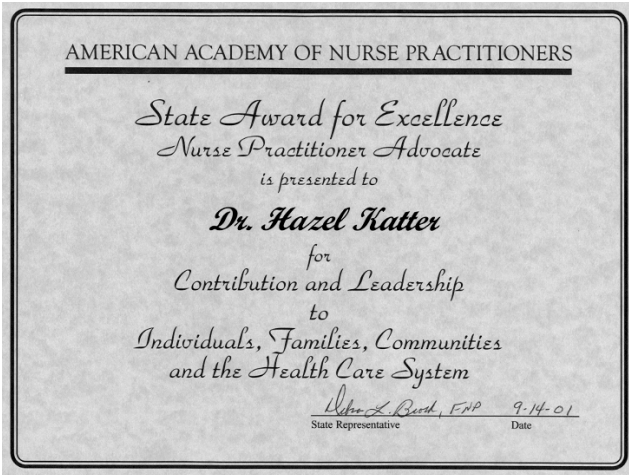
Among the 75 exhibitors in the Health Tent, besides ISDH, were hospital, HMO, and pharmaceutical exhibitors. Sunman says that Purdue University featured a "Breaking New Ground" exhibit that demonstrated a variety of supports to assist injured farm workers who had experienced serious disabilities, permitting them to continue farming.

Sunman surmises that attendance at the Farm Progress Show 2001 reached an estimated 300,000, many of whom were exposed to the health exhibits.



Farm Progress Companies Photos

American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Honors Katter, ISDH Local Liaison Office



Hazel Katter, director of the ISDH Local Liaison Office is the named designee on the award certificate presented to her by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. However, Katter insists, "The award is really in recognition of work by all the staff of the Local Liaison Office."

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners made the award to Katter in absentia in June at its national conference in Orlando. Recently, at the state conference of the Indiana Chapter of the national organization, the award was finally presented to Katter. The certificate reads, "State Award for Excellence, Nurse Practitioner Advocate is presented to Dr. Hazel Katter for contribution and leadership to individuals, families, communities and the health care system."

In recent years, the ISDH Local Liaison Office, under Katter's leadership, has been instrumental in helping local communities expand the availability of health care and medical services for many Hoosiers, primarily outside of urban areas but with a few notable exceptions.

The people now receiving these services previously have had limited access to health care in areas defined as federally designated medically underserved and health professional shortage areas. A network of nurse-managed clinics staffed by nurse practitioners has made improved access possible.

Federal seed funding administered through the Indiana State Department of Health has helped get these clinics established as nurse-managed clinics.

ISDH assistance has consisted of pass-through federal funding for evaluation grants and up to an additional three years of start up funding, renewable annually.

Hoosier Uplands Nets One of 13 National Federal Rural Health Outreach Grants



SALEM, the location of Washington County's Memorial Hospital and county health department is a relatively short drive from the Hoosier Uplands central office in neighboring Lawrence County's town of Mitchell. Hoosier Uplands, the Washington County Memorial Hospital, and county health department are collaborating to implement a new outreach grant for Washington County residents.

In May, Hoosier Uplands was funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a Rural Health Outreach Program. Hoosier Uplands is one of only 13 organizations nationally to receive one of these grants in 2001.

Areas of need to be addressed by the grant are: a satellite health care office in the county, transportation

services to provide access to health care for area residents and outreach/public health education activities to encourage healthy behaviors that will help strengthen immune systems to prevent disease.

David Miller, Hoosier Uplands CEO, says of the grant, "We have known for a long time the need for transportation, especially in the most rural areas of the county."

Hoosier Uplands is now in the implementation phase of the grant, which involves collaborative work with Washington County Memorial Hospital and the Washington County Health Department. Steve Adams, Hoosier Uplands' director of development and consulting services, says that the federal government will probably be looking at their results, if successful, in terms of replication nationally in other rural areas.

The grant provides \$200,000 per year, with annual renewals, for up to three years.

ISDH Local Liaison Office staff have assisted Hoosier Uplands over the past few years with seed grant money to open a series of nurse-managed clinics in each of the following Indiana counties: Orange, Crawford, and Martin, with two more slated to open, one each in Daviess and Owen counties.



The Indiana State Department of Health *NewsLink* is a monthly publication for local health departments. To submit news items, call (317) 233-7336 or send information to: ISDH NewsLink, Office of Public Affairs, 2 N. Meridian St., Section 2E, Indianapolis, IN 46204-3003. Inquiries should be directed to:

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